

**on 03 October 2012**



TASK AWAITS: Khairuddin (second left) congratulating Zul Syafiq on his appointment as Fadzil (left) looks on.

KUCHING: Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) gives freedom to its students to decide on its leadership, so they should turn up to elect members of the university Student Representatives Council (MPP).

According to Unimas vice-chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Khairuddin Abdul Rahman, the 43 percent turnout of student voters for the recent MPP election shows poor awareness of their rights.

"The low turnout is a challenge to the new MPP on how to get our students to be involved in such matters. The MPP election is important as members of the council represent the students themselves," said Khairuddin.

He was speaking at the swearing-in and presentation of appointment letters to Unimas MPP members for the 2012-2013 session.

Khairuddin said the university administration was considering to make the next MPP election compulsory to all students.

"We want to ensure those elected in the council are favoured by the students and able to carry out their duties," he said.

He also called on the newly-elected members of the council to set aside differences to look for solutions.

"Mutual consent and understanding is vital in an organisation and members in the council should hold on to this practice," he advised.

He reminded MPP members that their role was critical in championing the rights of students and not look at their appointment as a statement of power.

"Be approachable to everyone and get the cooperation of every student, and the council will surely serve its purpose," he said.

Thirteen new members of Unimas MPP council headed by its chairman Muhammad Zul Syafiq Abdul Wahab received their appointment letters yesterday.

Also present were Unimas Students' Affairs Deputy Chancellor Prof Mohd Fadzil Abd Rahman.

Source: [theborneopost](#)